

- Luke 11:1-13
- Scripture Reading: Psalm 27
- Board:
 - Psalms 4:1 Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness!
 - You have given me relief when I was in distress.
 - Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!



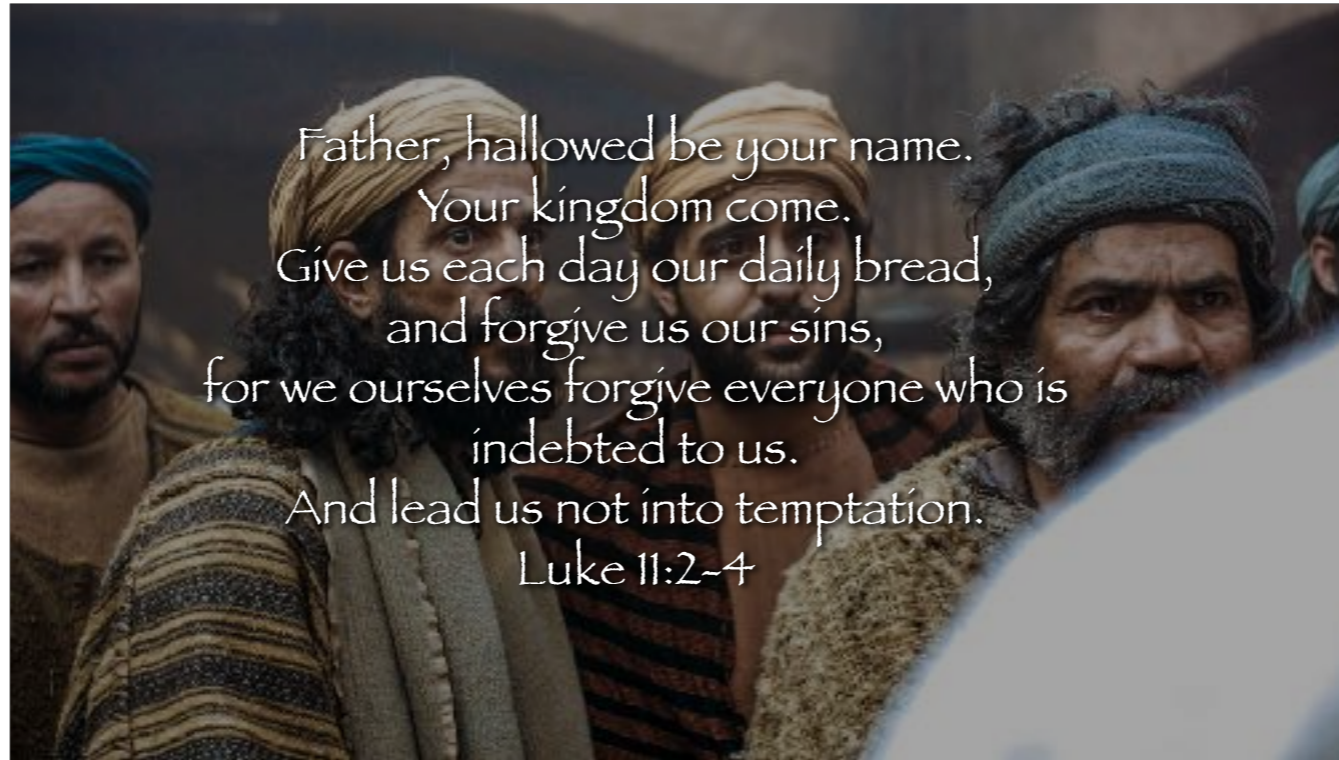
- Luke 11:1-13 (ESV) 1 Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished



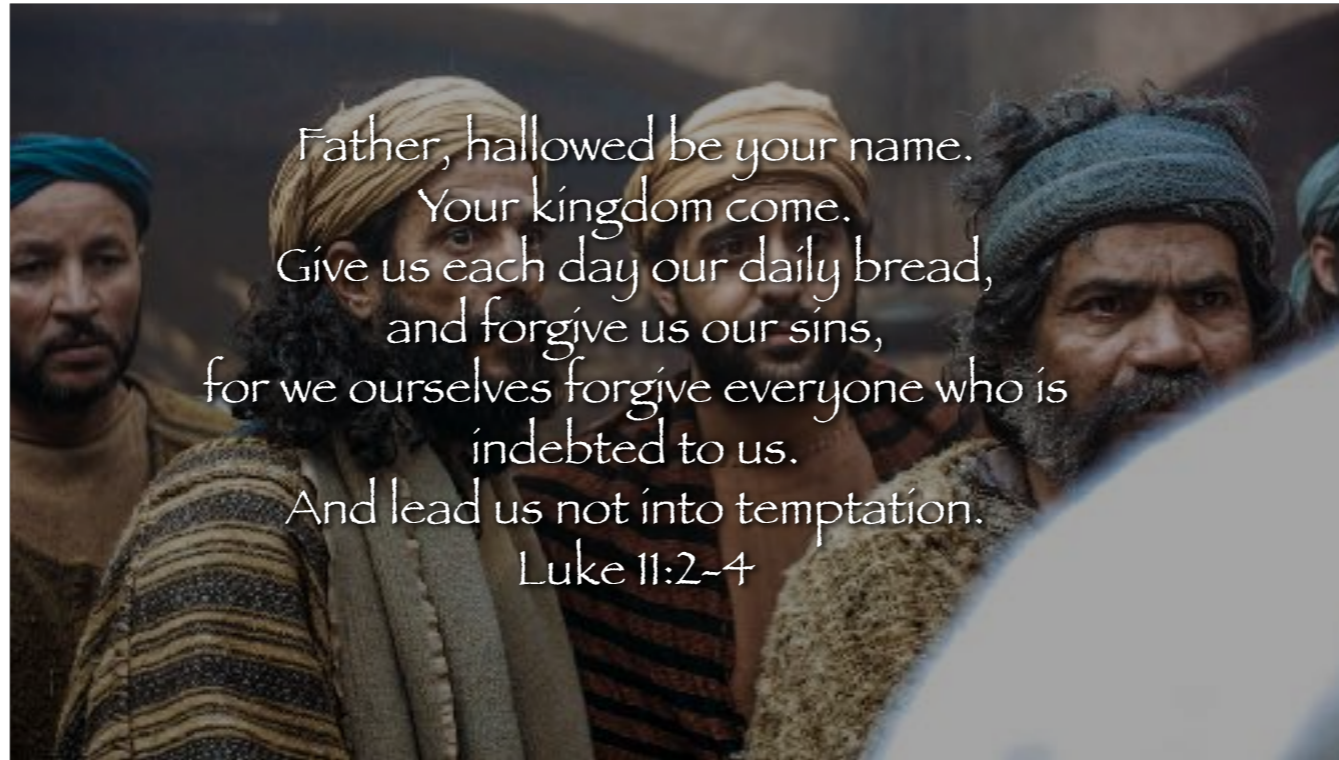
- Reading through gospels, it's clear that Jesus did a lot of praying
 - Early in the morning, alone
 - In desolate places
 - All night in prayer
- Matthew 14:23-24; Mark 1:35; Mark 6:46; Luke 3:21; Luke 5:16; Luke 6:12; Luke 9:18; Luke 9:28



- Luke 11:1-13 (ESV) 1 Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.”



- 2 And he said to them, “When you pray, say: “Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. 3 Give us each day our daily bread, 4 and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation.”



- This is a very simple, and powerful, prayer.
 - We know that not all of Jesus' prayers were like this (John 17, for example)
 - Prayer in the Garden
- Prayers don't have to be elaborate or over complicated:
 - Honoring God
 - Seeking his help



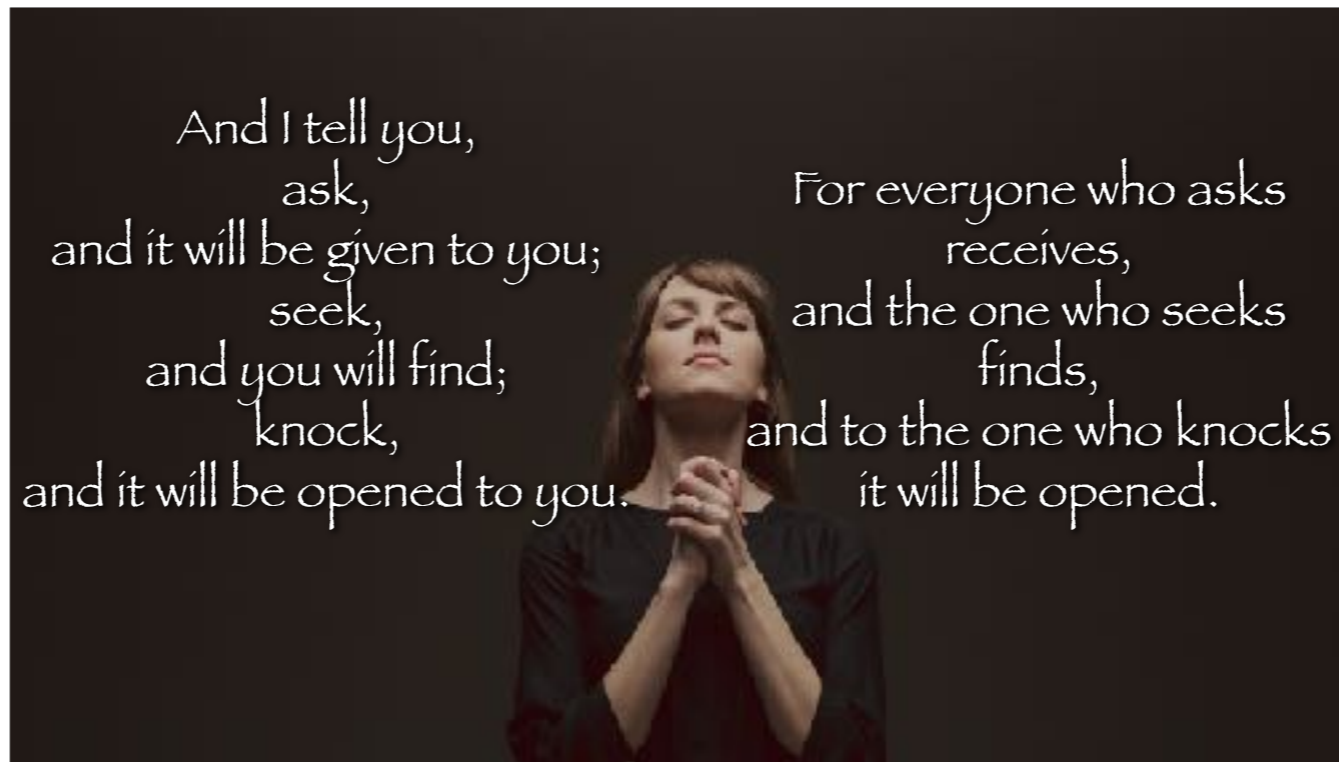
Friend, lend me three loaves
Luke 11:5

- 5 And he said to them, “Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves, 6 for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him’; 7 and he will answer from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything’? 8 I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his **impudence** he will rise and give him whatever he needs.
- impudence: shamelessness, recklessness

And I tell you,
ask,
and it will be given to you;
seek,
and you will find;
knock,
and it will be opened to you.



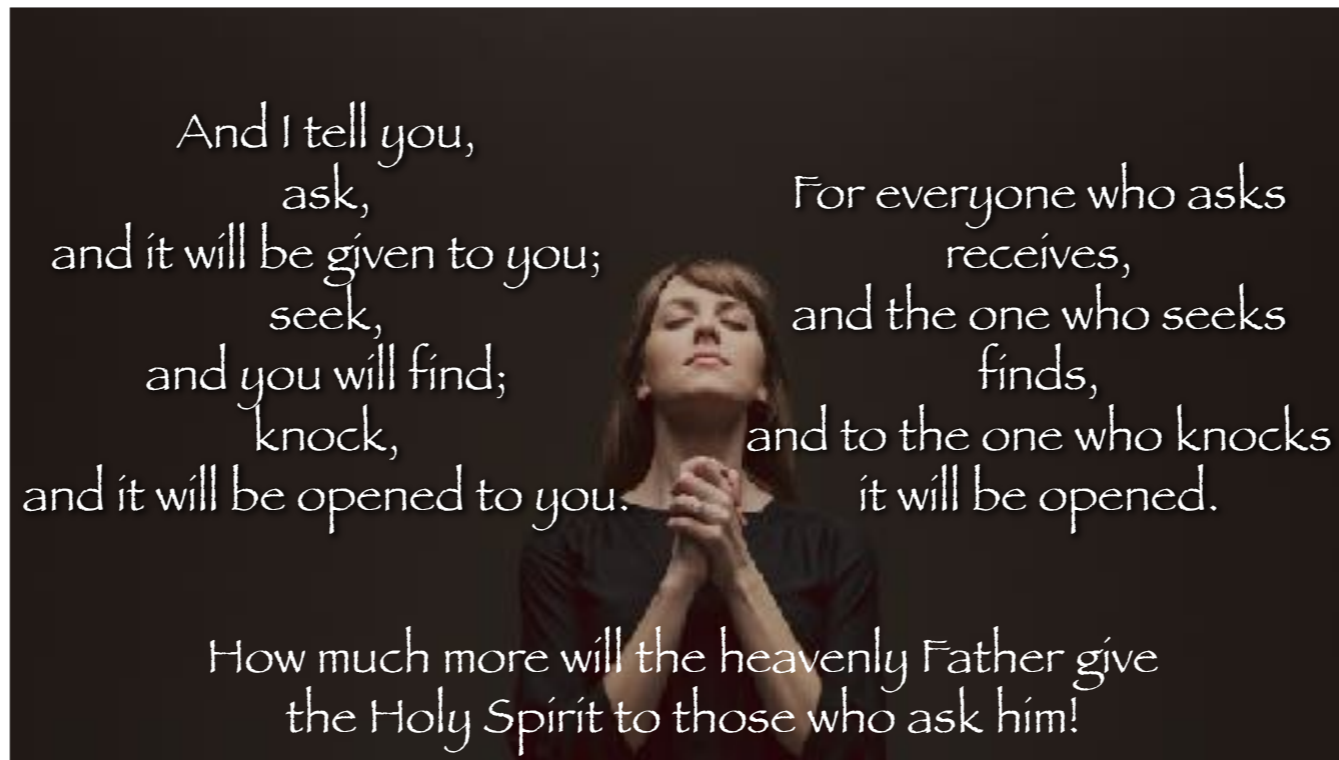
- 9 And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.



And I tell you,
ask,
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For everyone who asks
receives,
and the one who seeks
finds,
and to the one who knocks
it will be opened.

- 10 For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.

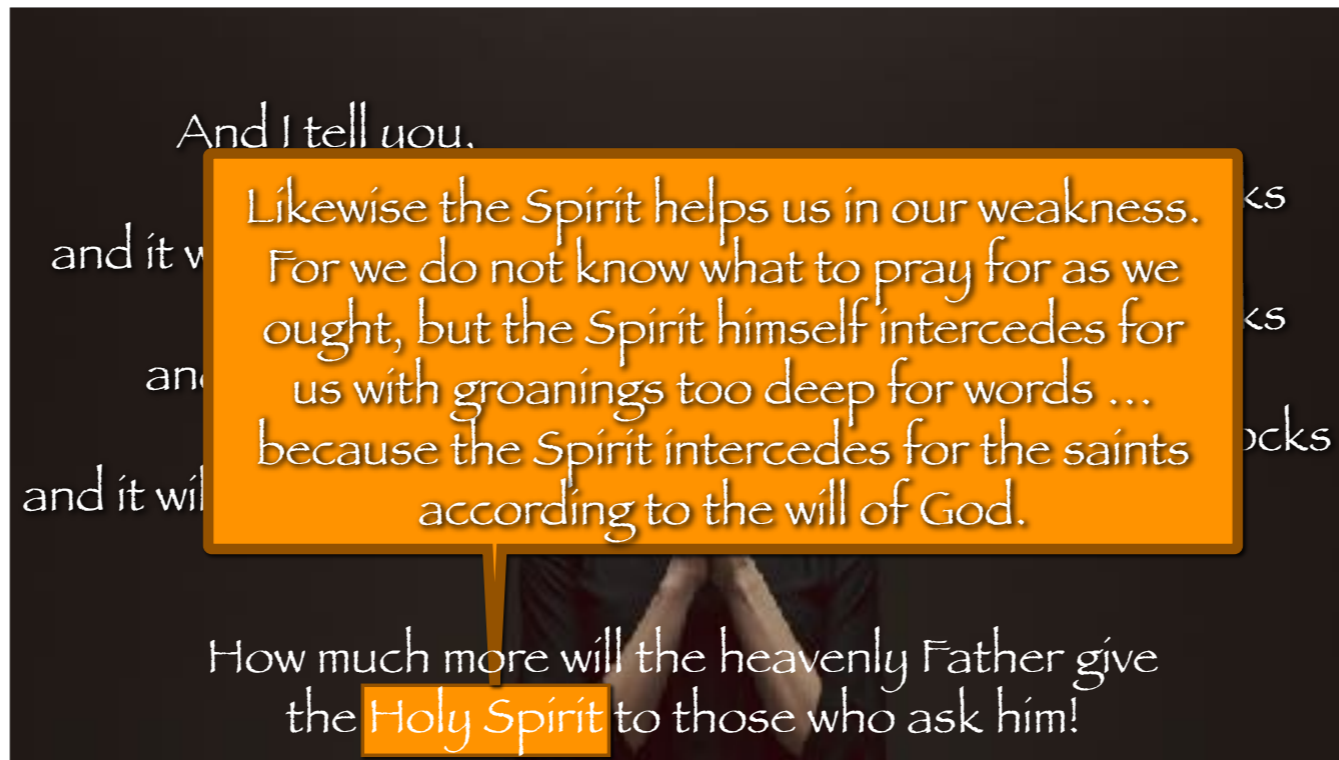


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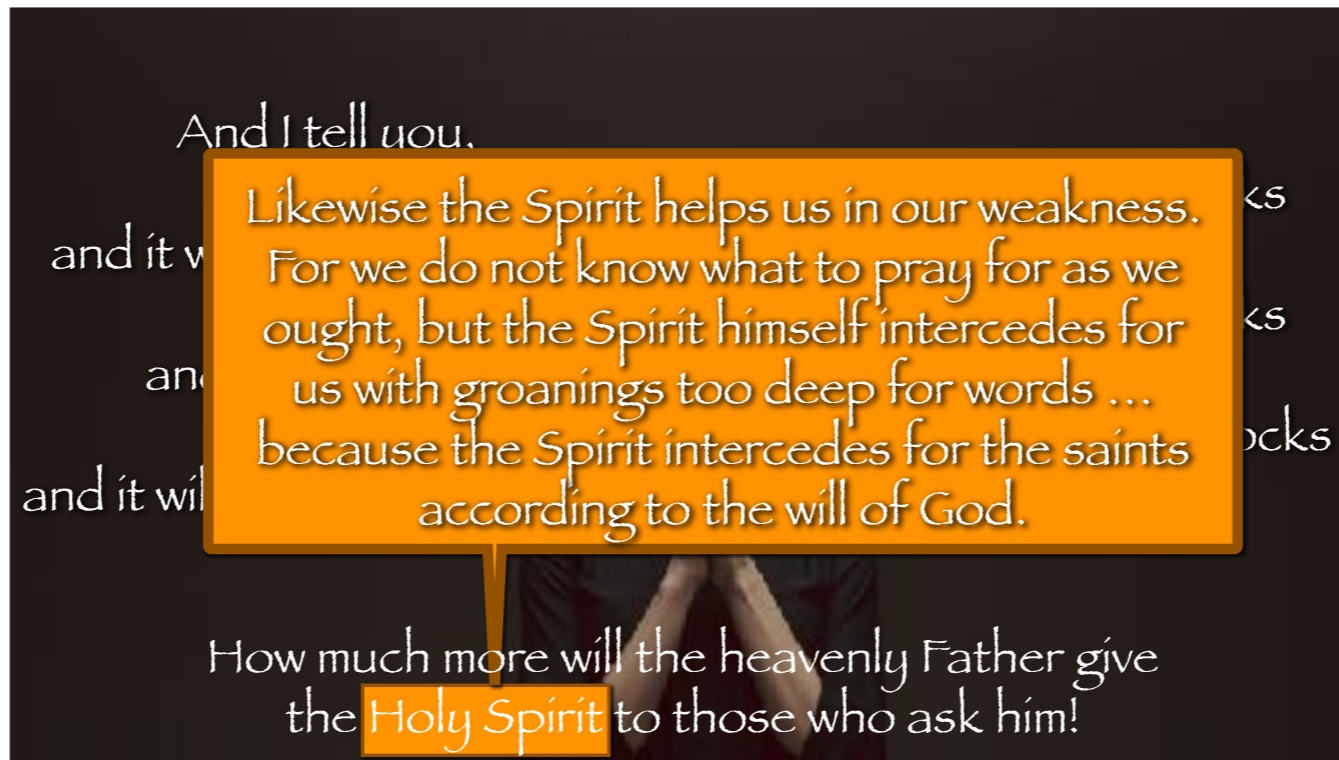
For everyone who asks
receives,
and the one who seeks
finds,
and to the one who knocks
it will be opened.

How much more will the heavenly Father give
the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!

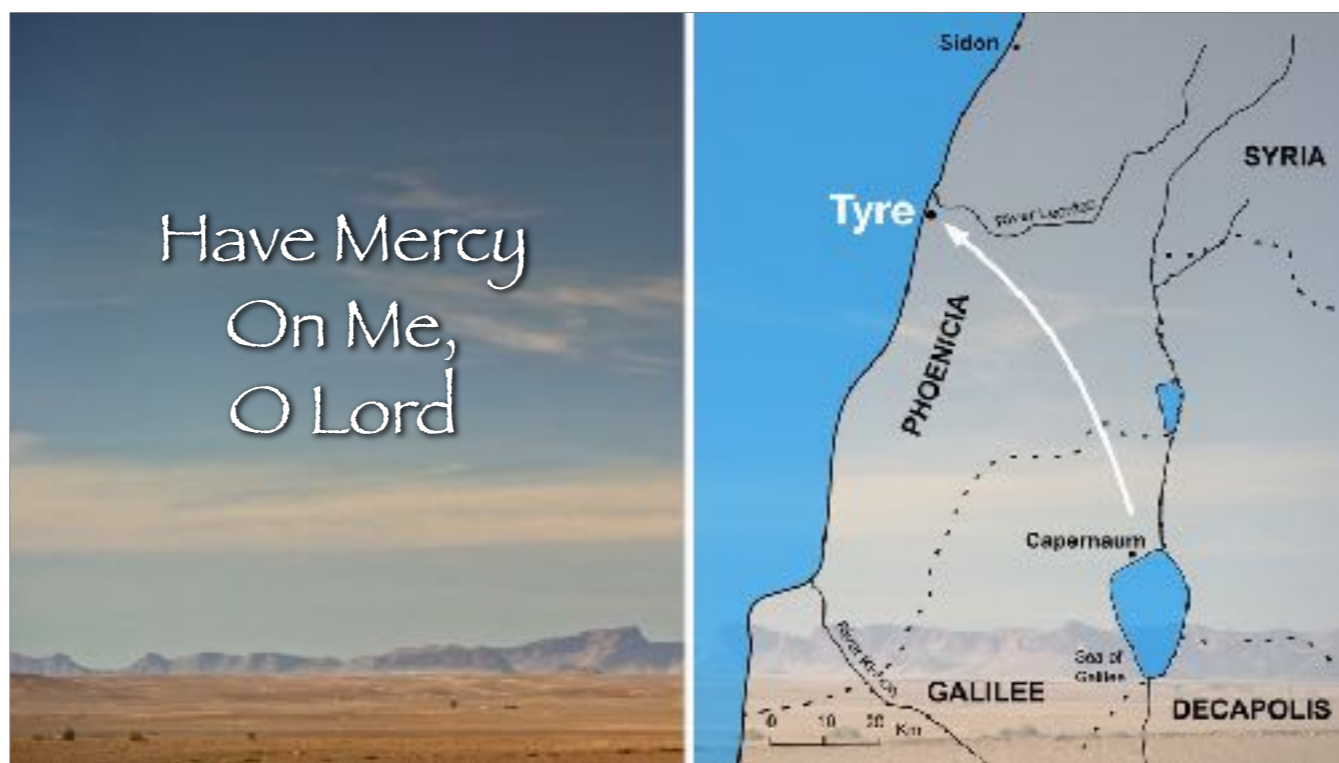
- 11 What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; 12 or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? 13 If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”



- Romans 8:26-27 (ESV) 26 Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. 27 And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

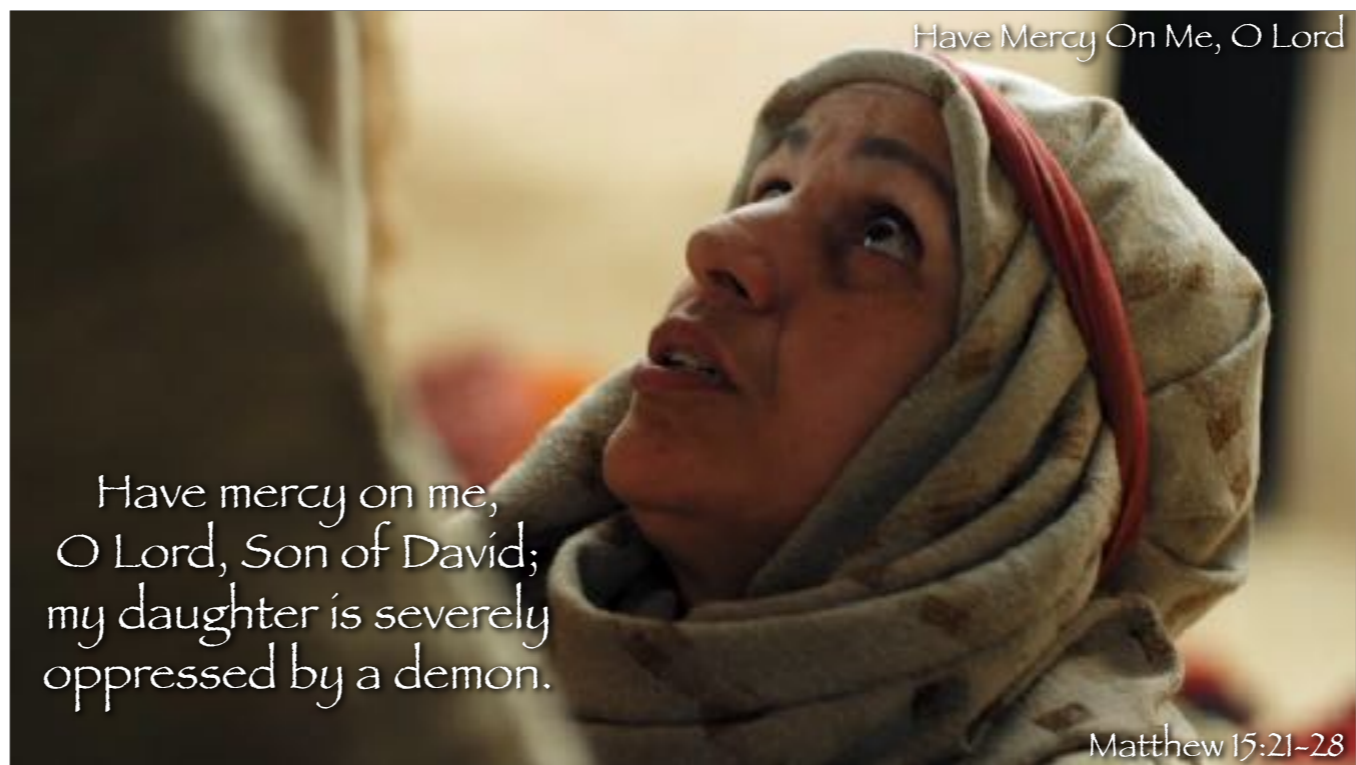


- the Spirit helps us in our weakness.
 - For we do not know what to pray for as we ought,
 - but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.
- This is not dealing with prayers like Jesus taught his disciples?
 - Sometimes our needs are deep.
 - Our prayers are not simple.
 - There are emotions, struggles, fear, hopelessness
 - We have adversaries, or are captured, or illness, or sorrow, or sin



- Have Mercy On Me, O Lord
 - Matthew 15:21-28
- 21 And Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon.

- Impudence (for more than bread)
- Ask, Seek, Knock

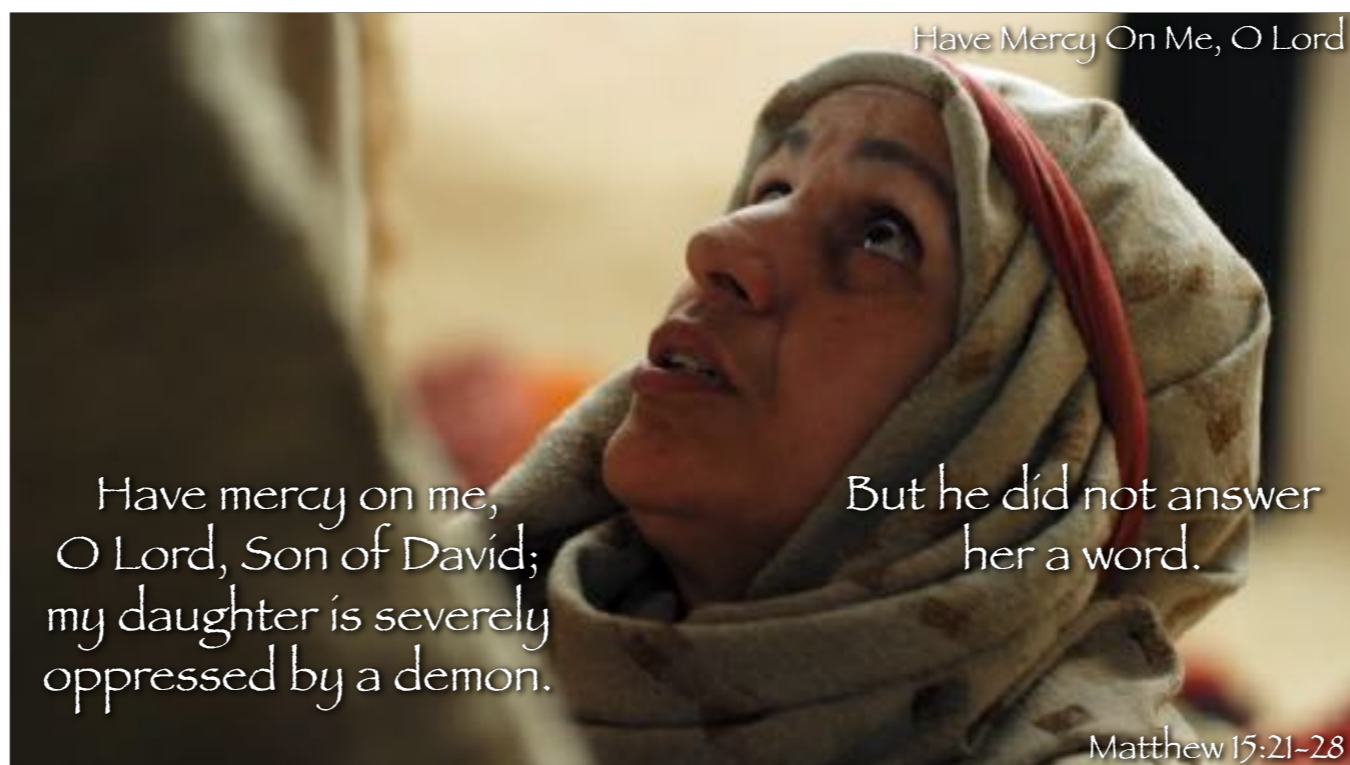


Have Mercy On Me, O Lord

Have mercy on me,
O Lord, Son of David;
my daughter is severely
oppressed by a demon.

Matthew 15:21-28

- 22 And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon.”



Have Mercy On Me, O Lord

Have mercy on me,
O Lord, Son of David;
my daughter is severely
oppressed by a demon.

But he did not answer
her a word.

Matthew 15:21-28

- 23 But he did not answer her a word.
 - This doesn't sound like Jesus to me ...
- Woman is clearly desperate, and she addresses him honorably.
 - Why no response?
 - did Jesus not care? was he just indifferent?
 - (we're not told, and so speculation isn't going to help ...)
- But sometimes (even often) we feel like when we offer our prayers to God there is no response.
 - Why doesn't God answer?
 - Psalms 89:49 Lord, where is your steadfast love of old, which by your faithfulness you swore to David?



Have Mercy On Me, O Lord

Send her away, for she
is crying out after us.

Matthew 15:21-28

- And his disciples came and begged him, saying, “Send her away, for she is crying out after us.”
- She continues even though he doesn’t answer ... she persists (How great is her need!)



Have Mercy On Me, O Lord

Send her away, for she
is crying out after us.

I was sent only to the
lost sheep of the house
of Israel.

Matthew 15:21-28

- 24 He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”
- This is really “No.”
 - Again, doesn’t sound like the compassionate Jesus that we know.
 - We could point out that Jesus didn’t do miracles without purpose.
 - Wouldn’t this be a great time to show Gentiles who he is? (Nope.)
- And sometimes when we pray the answer is No.
 - And we don’t understand why.
 - The solution is obvious. and good. and why wouldn’t God help?
 - God told Paul no about removing the thorn in the flesh (2 Corinthians 11)



- 25 But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.”
- She persists.
- She humbles herself.
- Her prayer is simple.
 - Her need is great!



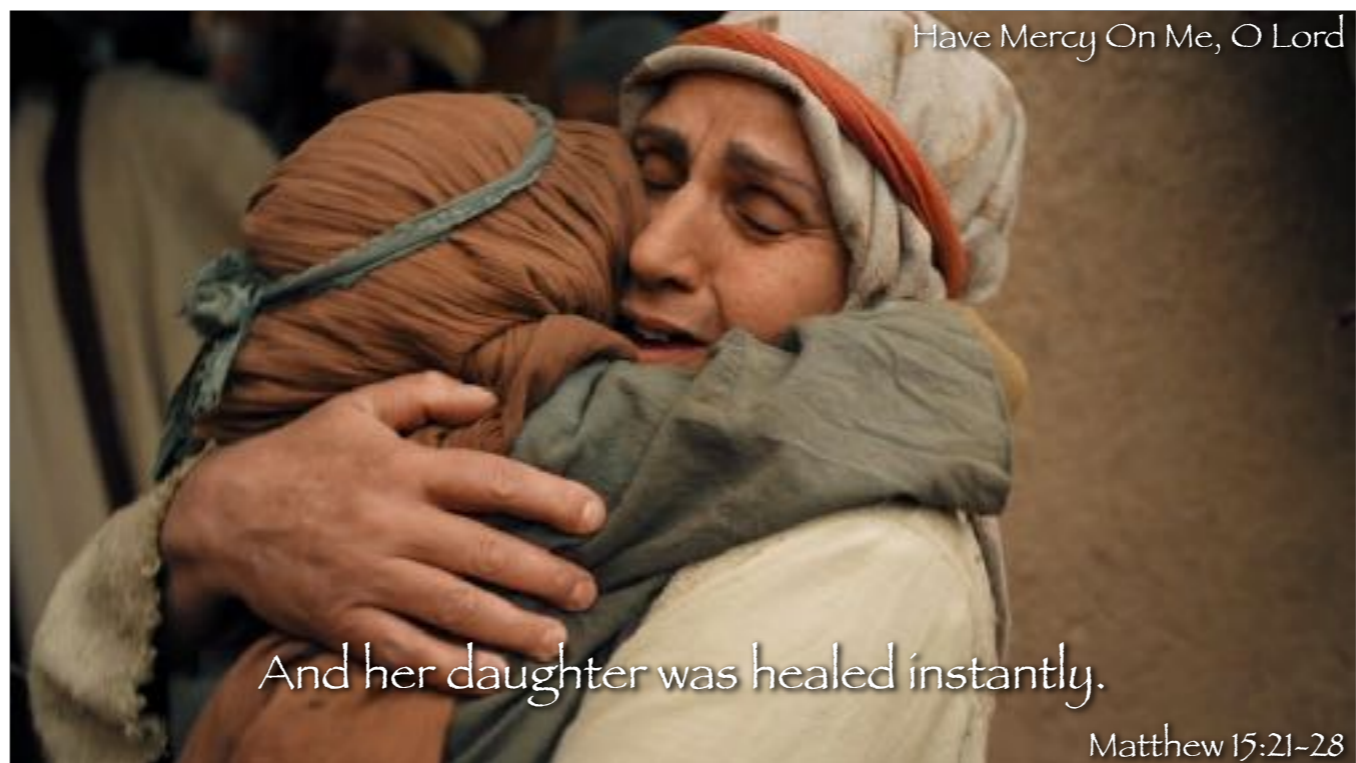
- 26 And he answered, “It is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs.”
- When Jesus says no this time, there’s an explanation.
 - But what a thing to say to a desperate woman
 - He came for helping Israel
 - God’s eternal plan of salvation was through the seed of Abraham
 - It would not be right to deprive Israel ...
 - (But how could it not be right to cast out the demon???)
 - He’s not saying he doesn’t care ... but there’s more happening than she knows.
 - All she sees is her daughter.
 - Jesus considers the big picture



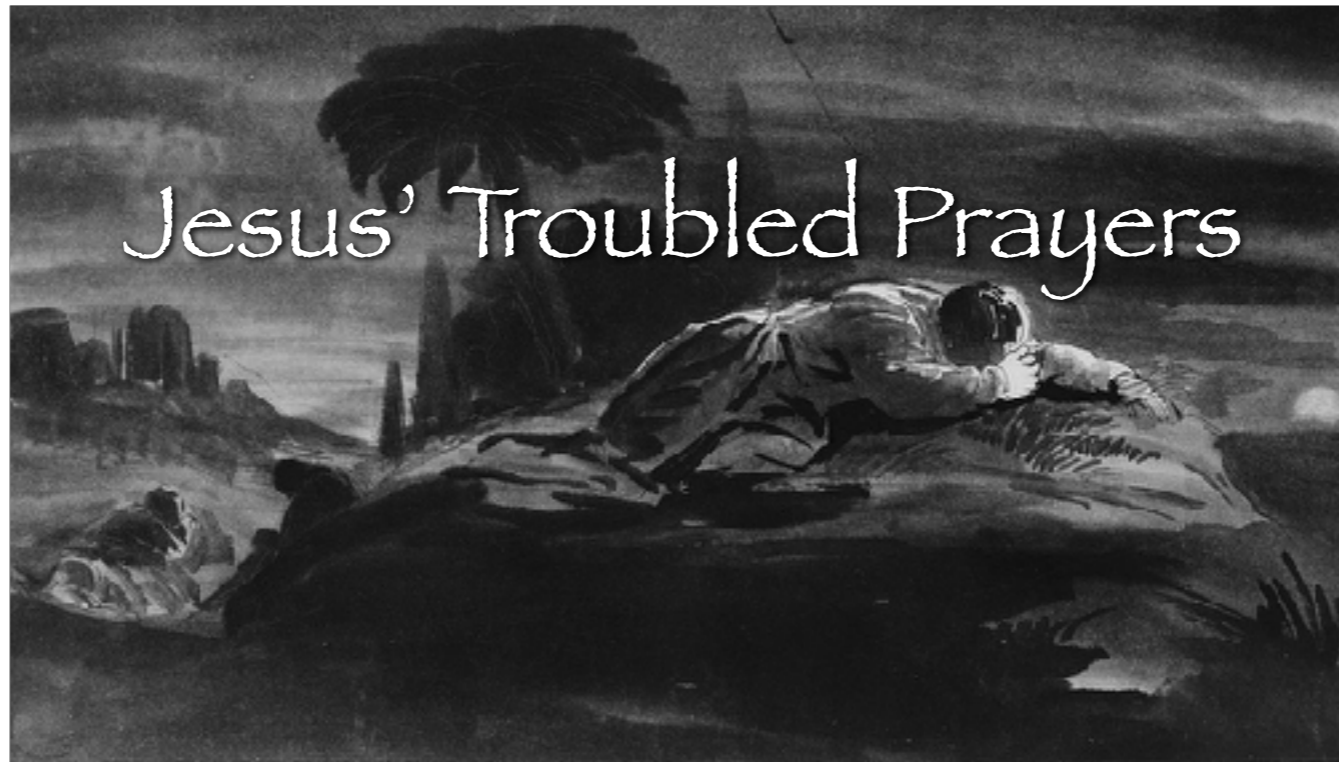
- 27 She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.”
 - She persists.
 - She’s not asking for much ... just a crumb
 - Acknowledging the greatness of His power
 - And how little this is compared to his power.
 - It means everything to her.
 - impudence! recklessness!



- 28 Then Jesus answered her, “O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.”
 - Jesus is amazed at her faith.
 - Persisting in prayer.
 - She is desperate for a solution.
 - She approaches Jesus again and again
 - When he doesn't answer, she doesn't become angry.
 - When he says no, she doesn't insult.
 - When he says no again, she doesn't revile.
 - She continues in faith ... and trusts his compassion



- And her daughter was healed instantly.
 - What a joyful moment.
 - But it almost didn't happen. And what if it didn't?
- Often in our prayers this is what we long for.

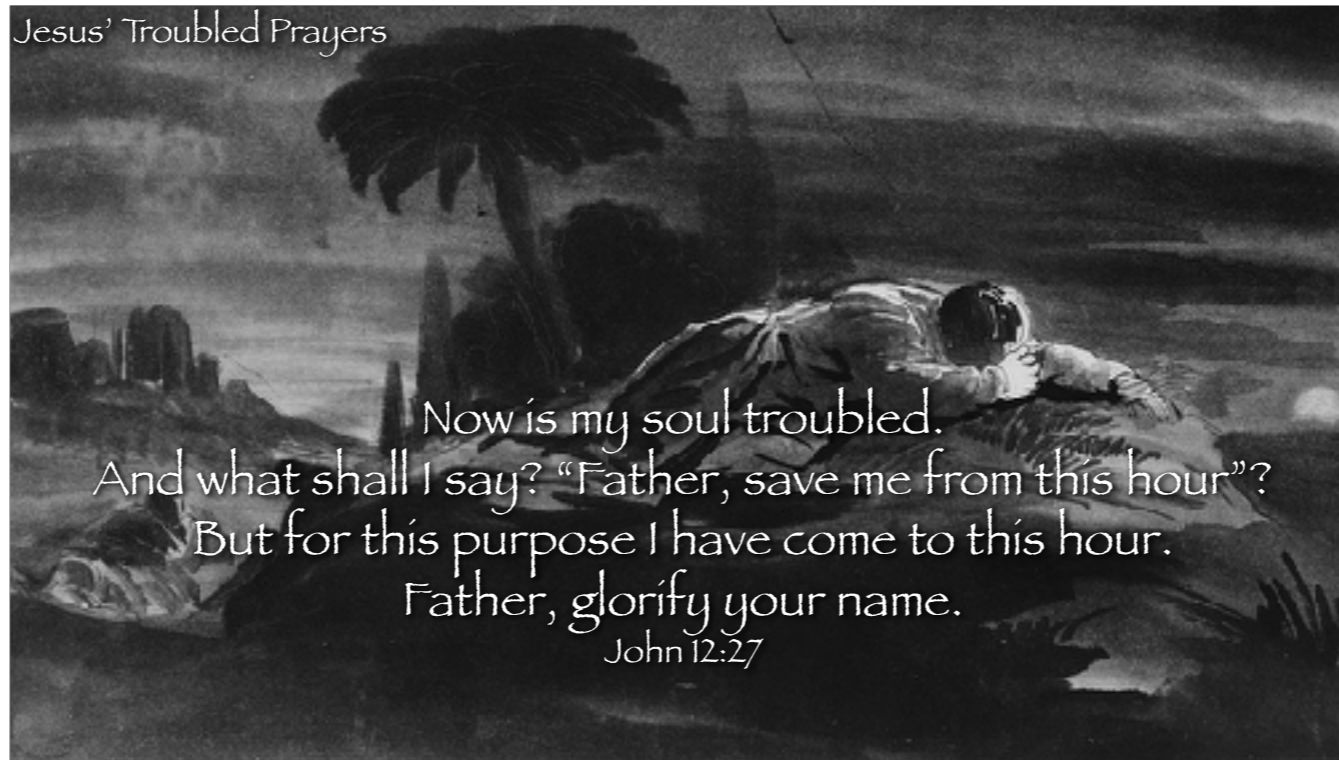


- Jesus' Trouble Prayers
 - Jesus knows about desperate prayer.



- John 12:27-28
 - "Now is my soul troubled.
 - And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour?'
 - But for this purpose I have come to this hour.
 - Father, glorify your name.
 - Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again."
- Doesn't sound like the prayer he taught his disciples.
 - His prayer is for one thing
 - But he also understands His purpose
 -

Jesus' Troubled Prayers



- Troubled
 - inward commotion; no calmness of mind; anxious; distressed
- The "Prayer"
 - "Save me" ... but I can't.
 - Purpose ... salvation, why he came to this moment.
 - Father, glorify your name.
 - Refocused ... but still troubled?



- Jesus in the Garden
 - Matthew, Mark, and Luke all provide us explanations of the struggle our Lord was enduring.
 - Some of these are given to us by the Spirit.
 - Some by the words of Jesus himself.
 - It's powerful and we need to pay attention.

Jesus' Troubled Prayers

Sorrowful



- Matthew 26:37-38 (ESV) 37 And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. 38 Then he said to them, “My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me.”
 - sorrowful (3076)
 - uneasy, grief



- troubled (85) (different word from John 12)
 - to be troubled, great distress or anguish, depressed -
 - This is the strongest of the three Greek words (85, 916, 3076) in the NT for depression.
 - (CWSB Dictionary) To faint, be depressed and almost overwhelmed with sorrow or burden of mind
 - (Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary) "to be troubled, much distressed,"



- very sorrowful, even to death (4036)
 - (CWSB Dictionary) Surrounded with grief, severely grieved, very sorrowful
 - (Theological Dictionary of the New Testament (Abridged - Little Kittel)) This word means 'extremely afflicted' or 'profoundly sorrowful.'



- Mark 14:33-34 (ESV) 33 And he took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be greatly distressed and troubled. 34 And he said to them, “My soul is very sorrowful, even to death. Remain here and watch.”
 - greatly distressed (1568)
 - to throw into terror or amazement
 - trouble (85)
 - very sorrowful, even to death (4036)



- Luke 22:44 And being in agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.
 - agony (74)
 - of severe mental struggles and emotions, agony, anguish
 - (CWSB Dictionary) Combat, from which the Eng. "agony" is derived. It is used to refer to the trembling excitement and anxiety produced by fear or tension before a wrestling match or a fight. In the NT, it is used denoting not the fear which draws back and flees, but the fear which trembles in the face of the issue yet continues on to the end



- (Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary) severe emotional strain and anguish.
- (Theological Dictionary of the New Testament (Abridged - Little Kittel)) In Lk. 22:44 it denotes concern for victory before the decisive struggle

Jesus' Troubled Prayers

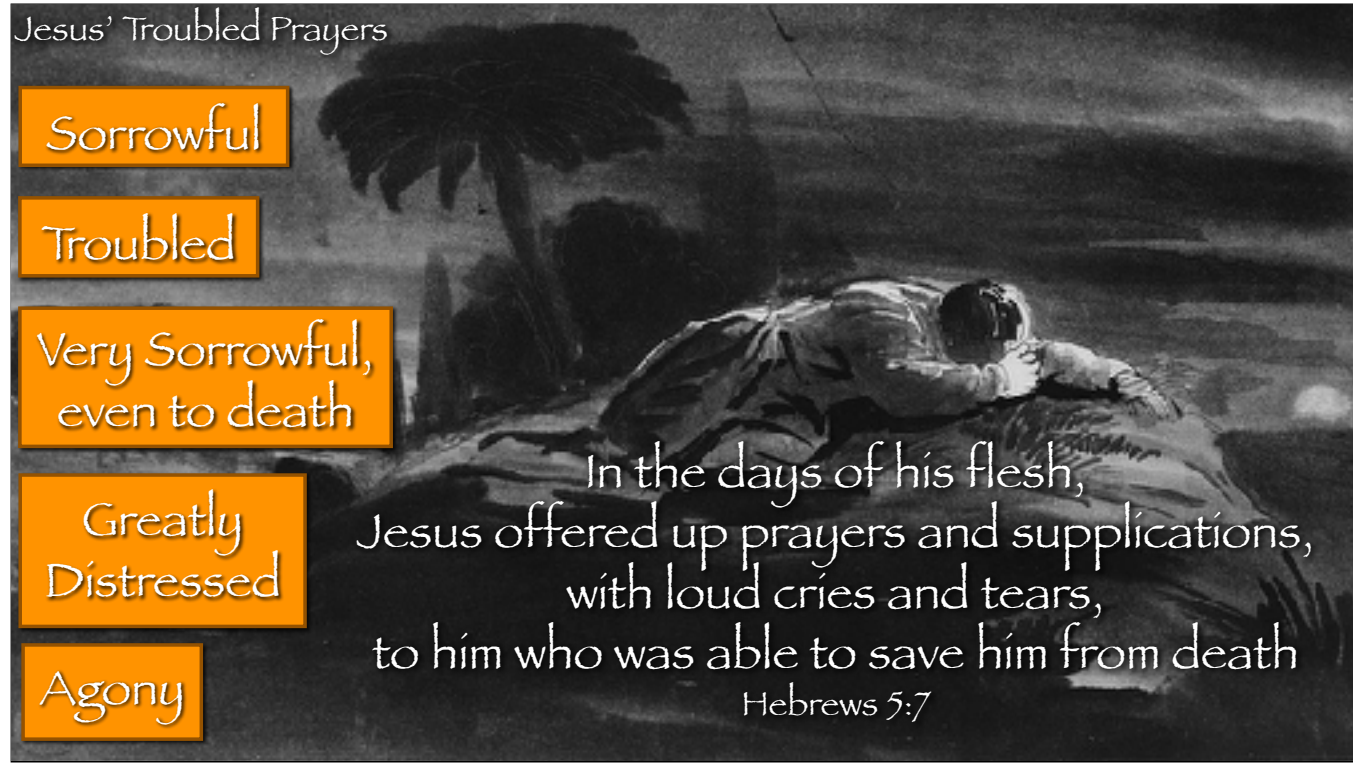
Sorrowful

Troubled

Very Sorrowful,
even to death

Greatly
Distressed

Agony



In the days of his flesh,
Jesus offered up prayers and supplications,
with loud cries and tears,
to him who was able to save him from death

Hebrews 5:7

- Hebrews 5:7 (ESV) 7 In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence.
- prayers and supplications
- loud cries and tears
- save him from death

Jesus' Troubled Prayers

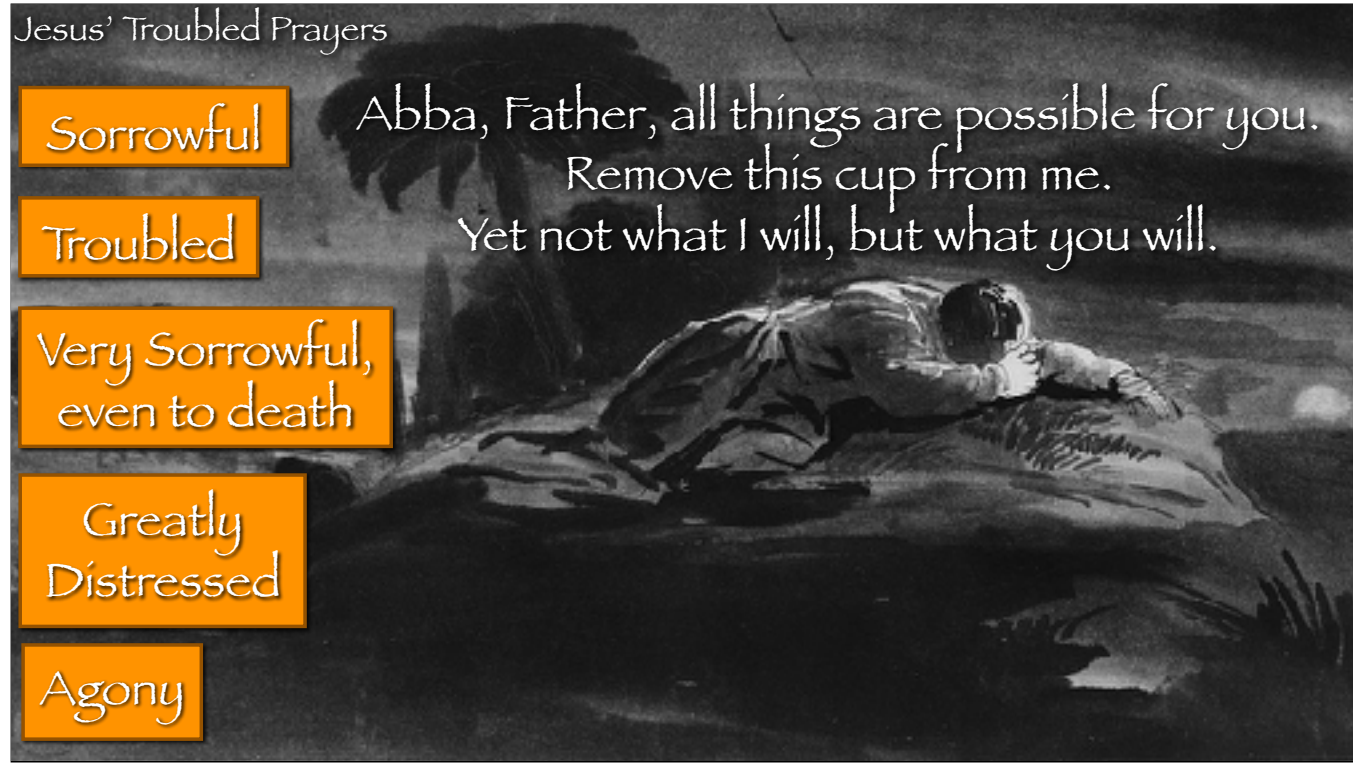
Sorrowful

Troubled

Very Sorrowful,
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Greatly
Distressed

Agony



Abba, Father, all things are possible for you.
Remove this cup from me.
Yet not what I will, but what you will.

- Mark 14:35-36 (ESV) 35 And going a little farther, he fell on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. 36 And he said, “Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.”
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Jesus' Troubled Prayers

Sorrowful

Troubled

Very Sorrowful,
even to death

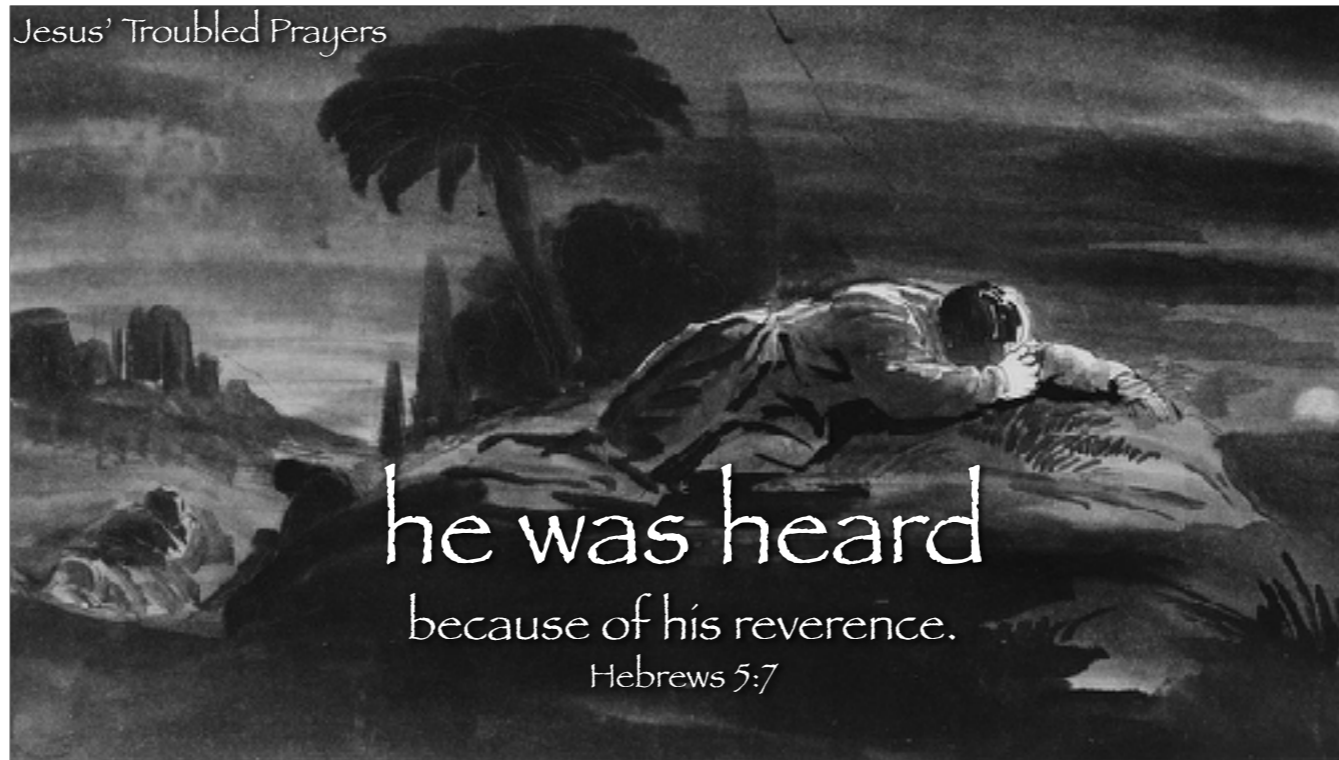
Greatly
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Agony

Abba, Father, all things are possible for you.
Remove this cup from me.
Yet not what I will, but what you will.

And there appeared to him an angel
from heaven, strengthening him.

- Luke 22:43 And there appeared to him an angel from heaven, strengthening him.
 - (Where's my angel?)
 - In praying to his Father, Jesus was strengthened.
- Prayer is a source of strength.
 - but the answer is still not always what we want.
- Too often prayer is scorned by the world as pointless, a waste of time.
 - (No reverence for God)
 - Expect God to just do whatever I ask, as soon as I ask:
 - as if he were a genie in a bottle.



- Hebrews 5:7 (ESV) 7 In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence.
- The Father heard Jesus' prayers
 - Our brother knows what it's like to be inconsolably sad.
 - Our brother knows what it's like to face certain death.
 - Our brother knows what it's like to be confused, and conflicted
 - Our brother knows the battle that rages in our minds between fear and faith.
 - Our brother knows what it's like when God's answer is NO.



- Jesus is our high priest and he knows about your desperate prayers.
- This doesn't mean we'll get the answer that we want the most.
- But we do know that he hears when we pray with reverence.
 - And we need to keep our faith in him ... whatever the answer may be.
- Pray without ceasing.
 - Pray persistently and pleadingly.
 - Pray with impudence

We implore you
on behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.

2 Corinthians 5:20

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Mark 7:24-30

A SYROPHOENICIAN WOMAN BEGS JESUS FOR HELP

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THE EASTER STORY

JESUS PRAYS IN GETHSEMANE

Matthew 26:36-56, Mark 14:32-52, Luke 22:39-53, John 18:1-12

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JESUS APPEARS TO THE DISCIPLES

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He Was Heard

Matthew 15:21-28

Synopsis: Prayer is a great gift given to us by our Father. Sometimes, though, prayer is intense and answers aren't what we expect, but we are assured that we are heard when we seek with reverence and trust God's will. This lesson reminds us to pray with intensity like our brother did.

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“Let all that you do be done with love.”